

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 09611 231307Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00  
INRE-00 NSCE-00 /052 W  
----- 105949 /54

O R 231148Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8405  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
USMISSION NATO  
USEC BRUSSELS  
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 9611

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, SP  
SUBJECT: CARRILLO DETENTION

REF: MADRID 9598 (NOTAL)

1. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, PCE SEC GEN SANTIAGO CARRILLO WAS  
ARRESTED YESTERDAY AFTERNOON IN MADRID, AS HE LEFT A MEETING  
OF THE PCE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. SEVEN OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS,  
INCLUDING SANCHEZ MONTERO, AZCARATE, AND ALVAREZ, ALSO WERE  
DETAINED. CARRILLO REMAINS IN CUSTODY, BUT THE DISPOSITION  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 09611 231307Z

OF THE OTHER SEVEN IS UNCLEAR.

2. BETWEEN 2,000 AND 3,000 DEMONSTRATORS REPORTEDLY GATHERED  
BEFORE THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SECURITY  
(DGS) LAST NIGHT TO PROTEST CARRILLO'S ARREST. THE MANIFESTA-  
TION WAS LARGELY ORDERLY AND BROKE UP WHEN THE POLICE PUNCTUATED

THEIR ORDER TO DISPERSE WITH A FEW SMOKE BOMBS. WE EXPECT SUCH DEMONSTRATIONS TO CONTINUE SO LONG AS CARRILLO REMAINS IN CUSTODY, THEREBY RAISING THE POSSIBILITY OF A CYCLE OF CROWD-POLICE OVERREACTION. THOUGH THE CHRISTMAS VACATION LIMITS THIS.

3. THE GOVT HAS NOT YET SPECIFIED THE CHARGES AGAINST CARRILLO, ALTHOUGH THERE IS SPECULATION THAT THEY MAY SIMPLY CONSIST OF THE CRIME OF ILLEGAL ENTRY, SINCE HE POSSESSES NO VALID SPANISH PASSPORT (THERE ARE RUMORS THAT CARRILLO ENTERED THE COUNTRY WITH A CUBAN PASSPORT AND UNDER A FALSE NAME). CARRILLO'S LAWYERS, ECHOED BY SOME ANTI-COMMUNIST OPPOSITIONISTS LIKE LIBERAL LEADER JOAQUIN SATRUSTEGUI, ALREADY HAVE STATED THAT THE GOVT WILL BE HARD-PRESSED TO MAKE ANY CHARGES STAND UP IN COURT. IN ADDITION TO NOTING THAT THE 30-YEAR STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HAS RUN OUT ON ANY CRIMES CARRILLO MAY HAVE COMMITTED DURING THE CIVIL WAR, THEY CLAIM:

--ANY CRIMES HE MAY HAVE COMMITTED SINCE THE CIVIL WAR ARE COVERED BY THE KING'S AMNESTY DECREE; AND

--THE CHARGE OF ILLEGAL ENTRY WILL NOT STAND UP BECAUSE CARRILLO, AS A SPANISH CITIZEN, CANNOT LEGALLY BE BARRED BY THE GOVT FROM ENTERING THE COUNTRY.

4. REACTION TO CARRILLO'S ARREST HAS BEEN PREDICTABLE, WITH ALL POLITICAL LEADERS INTERVIEWED, FROM SATRUSTEGUI AND CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADER GIL ROBLES THROUGH THE SOCIALISTS, CONDEMNING THE GOVT'S ACTION. OF THE MADRID MORNING PRESS, ONLY "EL PAIS" HAS COME OUT EDITORIALY ON THE ARREST, STATING THAT "CARRILLO IN JAIL OR EXPELLED WOULD BE AN UNNECESSARY SCANDAL, A POLITICAL STUPIDITY, AND A THREAT TO THE DOMESTIC CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03     MADRID 09611 231307Z

AND INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CREDIBILITY OF THE GOVT."

5. COMMENT: CARRILLO'S CLANDESTINE DEC 10 PRESS CONFERENCE IN MADRID WAS A CHALLENGE WHICH THE GOVT COULD NOT IGNORE, ALTHOUGH HE MAY HAVE WANTED TO BE ARRESTED AT LEAST AS MUCH AS THE GOVT WANTED TO CATCH HIM. HIS DETENTION RETURNED THE PCE TO THE FRONT PAGES AFTER ITS STOCK HAD FALLEN NOTICEABLY AND IT HAD BECOME MORE ISOLATED. THE DISPOSITION OF THE CARRILLO CASE IS AN EXTREMELY COMPLEX POLITICAL QUESTION, ALTHOUGH WE NOTE THAT THE SPANISH JUDICIARY, EXCEPT FOR THE PUBLIC ORDER TRIBUNAL, HAS FOR SOME YEARS NOW DEMONSTRATED CONSIDERABLE INDEPENDENCE. AT ALL EVENTS, WE EXPECT THE GOS CAN GET A CONVICTION ON SOME CHARGE IF IT CHOOSES. IF THE GOVT HANDLES THE CASE WISELY, AND DOES NOT MAKE CARRILLO A MARTYR, THIS EPISODE COULD BE A FIRST STEP IN LAYING THE COMMUNISTS "PROBLEM" TO REST. HOWEVER, IF THE CASE IS MISHANDLED AND THE DISPOSITION OF CARRILLO FORCES POLITICAL GROUPS TO CHOOSE UP SIDES, IT WOULD PUT AT HAZARD GOVT-OPPOSITION NEGOTIATIONS ON THE ELECTIONS.

STABLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, ARRESTS, PARTY LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976MADRID09611  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760471-0112  
**From:** MADRID  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761217/aaaaaoox.tel  
**Line Count:** 116  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 MADRID 9598  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CARRILLO DETENTION  
**TAGS:** PINT, SP, (CARRILLO, SANTIGAO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006